

Message Text

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PAGE 01 NEW DE 08271 261350Z
ACTION NEA-11

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SOE-02 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00
COME-00 DODE-00 EB-08 DOE-15 H-02 INR-10 INT-05
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-05 ICA-20 OES-07
SP-02 SS-15 STR-07 TRSE-00 ACDA-12 /137 W
-----125433 270143Z /72

R 261007Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1821

UNCLAS NEW DELHI 8271

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ENRG, IN
SUBJECT: POWER ACCORD AMONG THREE SOUTH INDIAN STATES

FOLLOWING SENT ACTION NEW DELHI INFO BOMBAY AND CALCUTTA FROM MADRAS
MAY 25TH RPTD TO YOU:

QUOTE:

MADRAS 0853

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ENRG,
SUBJECT: POWER ACCORD AMONG THREE SOUTH INDIAN STATES

REF: MADRAS 0694

1. ON MAY 23 THE POWER MINISTERS OF KERALA, KARNATAKA AND
TAMILNADU MET IN MADRAS AND REACHED AN AGREEMENT
PROVIDING FOR SUPPLY BY KERALA OF 7.5 MILLION KWH PER
DAY TO TAMIL NADU AND AN ADDITIONAL 2 TO 2.5 MILLION
KWH PER DAY TO KARNATAKA UNTIL THE END OF JUNE. THE
POWER POSITION IS TO BE REVIEWED AGAIN IN EARLY JULY.
IN ADDITION, THE MINISTERS AGREED THAT IF A DESIGNATED
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INTERSTATE SUPPLY LINE BREAKS DOWN, AN ALTERNATIVE
SUPPLY LINE THROUGH ANOTHER STATE CAN BE USED.

2. UNDER AN EARLIER AGREEMENT TAMIL NADU HAS THE OPTION
UNTIL FEBRUARY 1979 TO BUY THE ENTIRE SURPLUS POWER
PRODUCED BY THE IDUKKI PROJECT IN KERALA, BUT AS
REPORTED IN REFTTEL, KARNATAKA, ALREADY SUFFERING A

SHORTFALL OF UP TO 55 PERCENT, OF DEMAND IS FACED WITH A
WORSENDING SITUATION DURING THE CURRENT DRY SEASON AND HAS
BEEN SEEKING TAMIL NADU'S COOPERATION IN OBTAINING POWER FROM
KERALA. KARNATAKA HAD EARLIER OBTAINED 1 MILLION
KWH PER DAY FROM KERALA, AND NOW THIS IS TO BE INCREASED
INFORMED PRESS SOURCE, KERALA WANTS TO STEP UP POWER GENERATION
IN IDUKKI TO LOWER THE WATER LEVEL IN THE RESERVOIR BEFORE
THE MONSOON RAINS AND MAKE SOME MONEY BY SELLING THE POWER
TO KARNATAKA. THE ONLY CONCESSION TAMIL NADU APPEARS TO HAVE
GAINED FOR LETTING KARNATAKA BUY KERALA POWER IS THAT KARNATAKA
WILL ALLOW EXPERTS TO CONSIDER THE FEASIBILITY OF THE
HOGENAKAL HYDROELECTRIC POWER PROJECT ON THE CAUVERY PROPOSED
BY TAMIL NADU SEPARATELY FROM THE CAUVERY WATERS QUESTION.

SHARING OF CAUVERY RIVER WATER BETWEEN KARNATAKA, KERALA
AND TAMIL NADU HAS BEEN THE SUBJECT OF NEGOTIATION SINCE A
PREVIOUS 50 YEARS AGREEMENT EXPIRED IN 1974. THE HOGENAKAL
PROJECT, WHOSE RESERVOIR WOULD BACK UP INTO KARNATAKA, WOULD
PROVIDE 400 TO "10 MW THAT TAMIL NADU WOULD VERY MUCH LIKE
TO HAVE. MCCASKILL

UNQUOTE:

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NNN

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